

HERGÉ
THE ADVENTURES OF

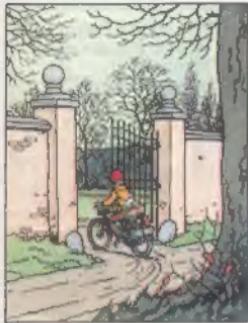
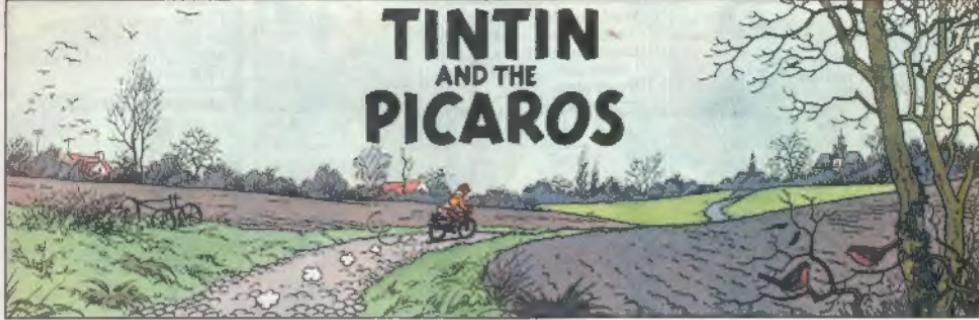
TINTIN AND THE PICAROS



MAGNET



TINTIN AND THE PICAROS





**RRRRING
RRRRING**

Hello?... Yes... WHO?

Jolyon Wagg, yes!...
Hi!... Now look here,
I jur' saw old
Castanette on the
tel... And what do
I hear? Blow me
if she hasn't got her
knick-knacks
insured
now...

...and for a pretty penny too!...
Strikes me you could have pushed
the business my way... For old Rock
Bottom Insurance! What's the use
of having friends, I say to myself,
if they let you down at the first
opportunity?... Come on, when
you want to do someone a good
turn, there's always a way!
...Yes, I do!... And I don't
mind saying so!...
And while I'm on...

What?... But I...
How... Well I'm...
I tell you I...
Bug... Excuse me
... Look here...

Well I'll be... !!
That's beyond a joke!

SLAM

In fact it's the thundering limit!
... I'm taken to task by that weevil
Wagg because he wasn't asked to
insure Casta... Fiore's jewellery!

PFOUAGH!

Billions of bilious blue
blistering barnacles!...
PFFF!... It's poi... son!

POISON
???

Nonsense, Captain! Who on earth
would want to poison you? I know
you've got a few enemies, but
not as deadly as that.

Maybe... Anyway, I don't
feel at all well.

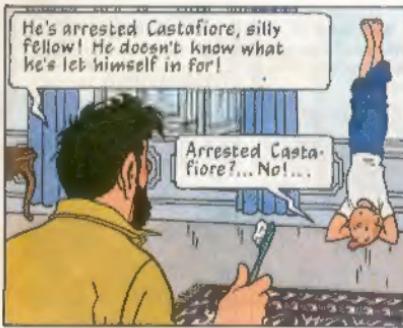
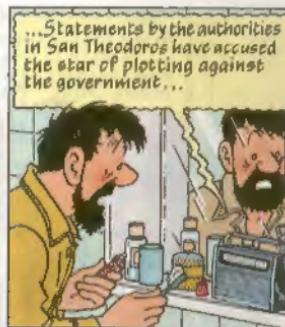
Something wrong
with this whisky?
It tastes
pretty good to me!

Have a lie down, Captain.
It'll go...

Good night! You'll feel
better in the morning.

All the same, I
wonder ...

SNOWY!



Listen to this, Tintin : it's positively hilarious!

Go ahead.
I'm all ears.

each have been
revenue when the
wards. Some agreement
no statement was issued.

STAR IN TERRORIST PLOT BIANCA CASTAFOIRE ARRESTED

TAPIOCAPOLIS, T
International oper
Bianca (Milanese)
Castafoire was a
tonight by the S
Theodoros pol
is accused of
against the S
Members of
entourage
taken into
arrest

"... A search of her luggage re
vealed documents which prove
conclusively the existence
of a plot aimed at the removal
of General Tapioca and the
overthrow of his regime ...

... The San Theodorion government
have let it be known that the plot
is centred in a West European
country, where the singer was
staying before her departure for
South America.

It's just like a
cheap thriller!

Castafoire in a conspiracy!
A conspiracy of silence, let's
hope!!

Excuse me, sir, but there are
two reporters downstairs...
asking if you will see them.

DONG

Already???

All right. Just let me
put on a dressing-gown
and I'll come.

Why, it's Christopher Willoughby-Drups
and Marco Rizotto of "Paris-Flash".
What can I do for you, gentlemen?

Good-morning, Captain. Forgive us for
calling so early, but we wanted to be
the first to ask what you think of
this Castafoire business.

What do I think? ...
Perfectly simple...

I think it's a load of old
rubbish! Blistering barnacles! Accusing
Castafoire of
conspiracy!...
Ridiculous!

Yes, but what about the accusations
made against yourself?

Accusations against ME ???

Ah, so you don't know about
that yet? Here, look... in
today's "Trumpeter" ...

?

Impossible!... Those San Theodolites
must be off their tripods!

Oh, it's you. Here, read
this. It concerns you, too.

Me?

Yes, you!
Read it!...

What is all this? They
must be crazy!

You deny it
then?

You're telling
me!

I'll say we do! The
whole story is bilge!
Bilge from stem
to stern!

courageous action which will bring widespread
benefits.

CASTAFIORE CONSPIRACY

TAPIOCA GOVERNMENT MAKES NEW CHARGES

Tapiocapolis: The Castafiore conspiracy was masterminded from Marlinspike in Western Europe, claimed a government spokesman today. He accused supporters of General Alcazar, and named as principal figures in the plot: Captain Haddock, Tintin the reporter, and Professor Cuthbert Calculus. All three are long-standing friends of General Alcazar. It is known that Signor Bianco Castafiore was recently a guest at Marlinspike Hall, country home of Captain

DONG



'Morning squire!'

"Daily Reporter"! Hi!

A few words for "Radio-
Round", Captain...

... and for "Radio
Rave-Up"...

Gentlemen, these
accusations are as
grotesque as they are
false! Us? Conspirators?
... Blue blistering bell-
bottomed balderdash!

Seriously... Here comes
Professor Calculus. Look at him,
then tell me whether you think
he's capable of taking
part in a conspiracy!

Perfectly, my dear sire! And
proud of it!

Perfectly!... And I weigh my words.
It's a shame, I tell you! A scandal!
... Imprisoning a poor, weak woman
like that! We must take her case at
once to the International Court of
Justice!



You deny the allegations, Captain.
All the same, General Alcazar is one of your friends,
isn't he?

One of my friends?...
I've met him two or three times, that's all.



If you say so. But I take it you won't
deny that Signora Castafiore has
been a guest here, at your invitation?...

Invitation? You mean
invasion! But from
that to conspiracy ...



Still, let's not discuss it any more. I tell you, the
accusations are insane... Now, gentlemen, let me
offer you some whisky ...



Let's drink to the
release of the Milanese
Nightingale, and...



... your good
health!



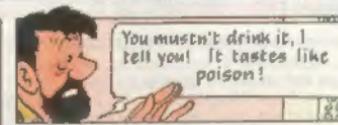
Stop! Don't touch it!... There must be
some mistake. This whisky is quite un-
drinkable!

Undrinkable? On the con-
trary, it's excellent!

Velvet!

Mmm...

You mustn't drink it, I
tell you! It tastes like
poison!



I'm the only one who finds
the whisky revolting.
Why? There's something
fishy going on ...



Of course, of course: a poison
that kills slowly! It's a
known fact! Ha! ha! ha!

And that's no problem:
as it happens, we aren't
in a hurry! Ha! ha! ha!

Unless... That's
an idea...
Maybe it's a
new brand
Nestor bought.



I must ask
him...

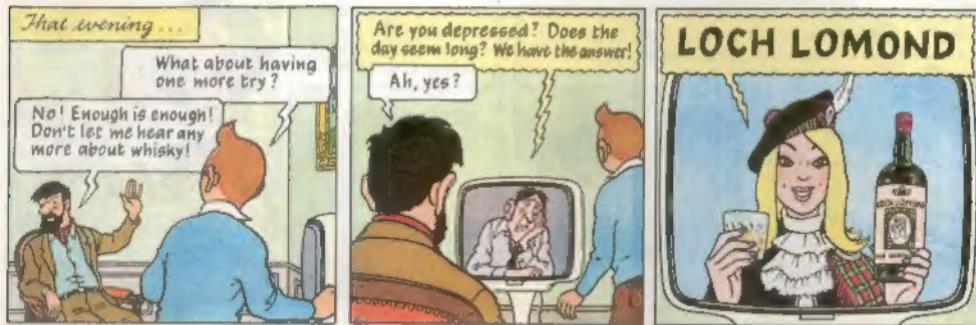


I can't understand
the master: I find
this "Loch Lomond"
superb, as always.



I say,
Nestor...

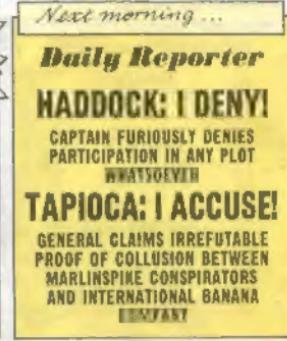






And a few minutes later ...

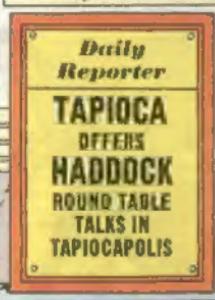
I'll repeat that : General Tapioca, Tapiocapolis, San Theodoros. Message reads: Profoundly shocked by false accusations made against us Stop We register formal and absolute denial Stop No regards Signed : Haddock, Tintin and Calculus.



General Tapioca, Tapiocapolis. Oh! You know that... Good. Message reads... er... Downright lies Stop Will make you swallow false allegations... Yes, in the plural ... one day Stop You will end up hanging from yardarm. Yes, y as in yashmak... Stop.



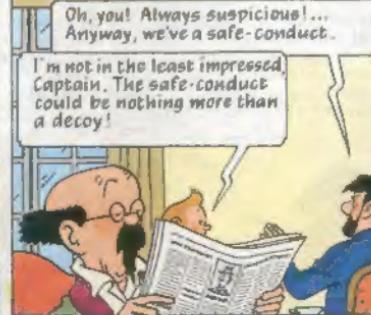
Two days later ...



At a press conference today, General Tapioca announced that he is inviting Commodore Haddock and his companions to Tapiocapolis for a full, free, frank and fair exchange of views. Each visitor would receive a safe conduct through the good offices of the embassy. "My only aim," asserted the general, "is to seek out the truth."



You know, he isn't a bad old stick really ... I've a good mind to accept his invitation. That way, we'd show everyone our good faith.



Have you seen? We've been invited there. We must go, Captain.



Yes, and find ourselves in prison like your precious Bianca!... That's plain as a pikestaff, my poor friend!.. As for the safe conduct, it's just a decoy!

Bravo! Well spoken! I'll pack my things and we'll go!

Next morning

Daily Reporter

TALKS DRAMA
WILL HADDOCK & CO RESPOND TO TAPIOCA INVITATION?

The following day

Daily Reporter

HADDOCK SENSATION NO!
I WON'T GO TO TAPIOCAPOLIS

And the day after

Daily Reporter

HADDOCK BACKS DOWN
SAYS TAPIOCA: HE FEARS TRUTH

I'm back no down! I'm afraid of the truth! All right you'd start at duck billed dipodocus! I'll show you what sort of stuff I'm made of!

Calm down Captain

Calm down! Calm down... I'm as cool as a cucumber!

He'd challenge me that ostrich! All right, we shall see what we shall see

Hello. Telegrams?
Yes yes naturally for General Tapioca.
Message reads ..

Send safe-conducts (in the plural, safe-conducts)
Stop Arriving by return of post ..Signed
Haddock.. Good. Not Ordinary rate!!!

The die is cast! He'll find out what sort of fish he's hooked, that puffed-up Punchinello!... Tintin ... we're going!

YOU may be going, Caplain I'm staying right here!!

What? What did you say?

I said I'm not going, Captain You're quite free to fall into the trap they're trying to set for us, but as far as I'm concerned it's NIET!

Oh! You and your suspicions! They're an obsession! According to you, the world's composed of nothing but scallywags and scoundrels! ... Why shouldn't General Tapioca be an honest sort of chap, eh?...Why? ... Go on, tell me!

It's always possible, but

I still think they're trying to entice us over there. I don't know the reason, but it positively reeks of trickery.

Ah! So that's it!

All right, stay here, Mister Mule! Stay tucked up, all safe and warm in your bedroom - slippers! Cuthbert and I are going out there to defend our honour, and yours too, against that thundering herd of Zapotecs! Finish!

Three days later

Ladies and gentlemen, in a few moments we shall be landing at Tapiopolis. Please fasten your safety-belts and extinguish your cigarettes...

We're coming in to land Professor

The land? Really? What a surprise

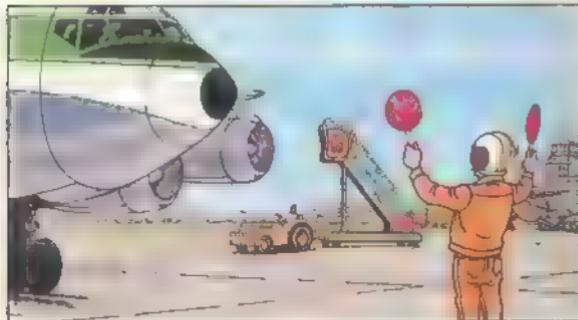


D'you see? We're arriving in Tapiocapo is just in time for the famous carnival week

In Greek 22

'Taking part will be many performers from overseas, including .." Why, look! There's a troupe from back home - The Jolly Follies!

Iced lollies?" Now?



Ah! There is the reception committee



"Commodore Haddock"

Er just captain
er



Such modesty! Here, a man of your gallantry would be an admiral!... Allow me to present myself: Colonel Alvarez, aide-de-camp to His Excellency General Tapioca

Delighted!



Professor Calculus, I presume?
To you also, welcome to our country!



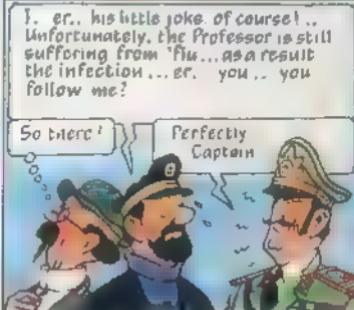
I'm sorry, officer, but I cannot shake a hand which grinds under foot the imprescriptible rights of the human individual!



J. er.. his little joke, of course!.. Unfortunately, the Professor is still suffering from 'flu... as a result the infection ... er.. you.. you follow me?

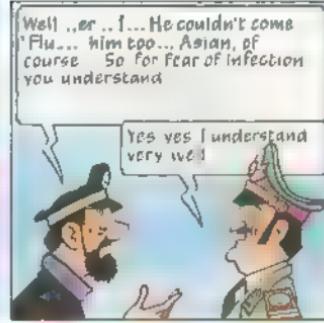
So there!

Perfectly Captain

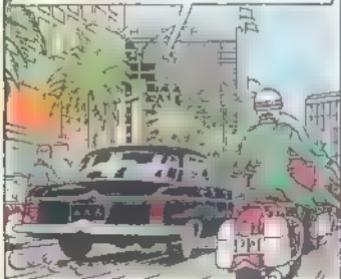


And this is our good friend Tintin, no doubt?





Ah! Our hotel, I imagine?



No, señor Commodore. We thought you would prefer the peace of the countryside to the hubbub of the city. Besides, the carnival will be starting shortly... Then there'll be incessant noise round here, all day and all night. You wouldn't get a wink of sleep.



Did you know, a party of your compatriots are joining the festivities this year?

Yes, I saw... The Jolly Follies



Half an hour later

Here we are



Just a simple precaution
Ah yes, the swimming pool is over the other side



These are your apartments, señor Commodore: I hope they will please you

I'm sure



Of course, a servant will be at your disposal throughout your stay with us...

Too kind, Colonel





Oho! "Loch Lomond" These Tapiocons certainly do things in style!



He lo, that doesn't seem to please him... Yet they assured us that was his favour to wh say.



Unbelievable!... It's still happen ng! What's gone wrong? Why can't I take whisky any more?



Let's try some thing else g'n for instance



He doesn't he that either? Just his bad luck!.. Now for Channel No. 2...



An there no 1st! A pity he didn't agree to work for us... But who knows, he may change his mind some day



Good Now Channel No. 3
Colonel I must



I must tell you Number Three has not arrived Colonel

Not arr ved? Szing why not?... Where is he then?



He never left Europe, Colonel. Number One told me he had influenza and that...

And you tell me that now!
By the whiskers of Kürví-Tasch!



Influenza So he was susp cious! But it's absolute y necessary for him to come!... And if I know him he'll be coming anyway!



Good, I'll think about it. Meanwhile, you'll have to stall the others. Tell them everybody's got influenza...that the Castafiore's lost her voice. tell them anything you like...to gain time

Very good
Go on!

Meanwhile

What a beautiful evening. It must be lovely outside

Hello, what's this?
Rusted up?

Come open...you stupid
stubborn

Billions of billions
blue blistering
barnacles! Why
does everything
happen to me!

¿Qué pasa?

¿Qué pasa? Que pasa is that
I tried to open that confounded
window!... And kindly put
away the thunderbans those
things have a habit of going off

CRACK

No good to open señor
... air conditioning

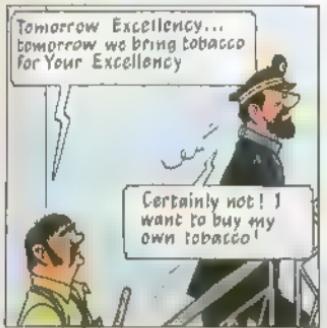
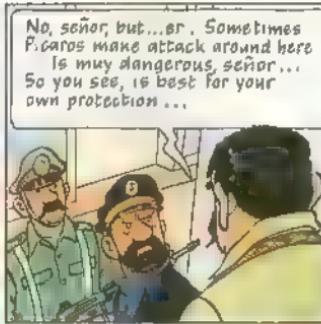
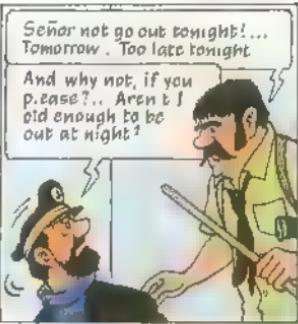
That may well be so but I
don't happen to like canned
air. Kindly open the
window, por favor!

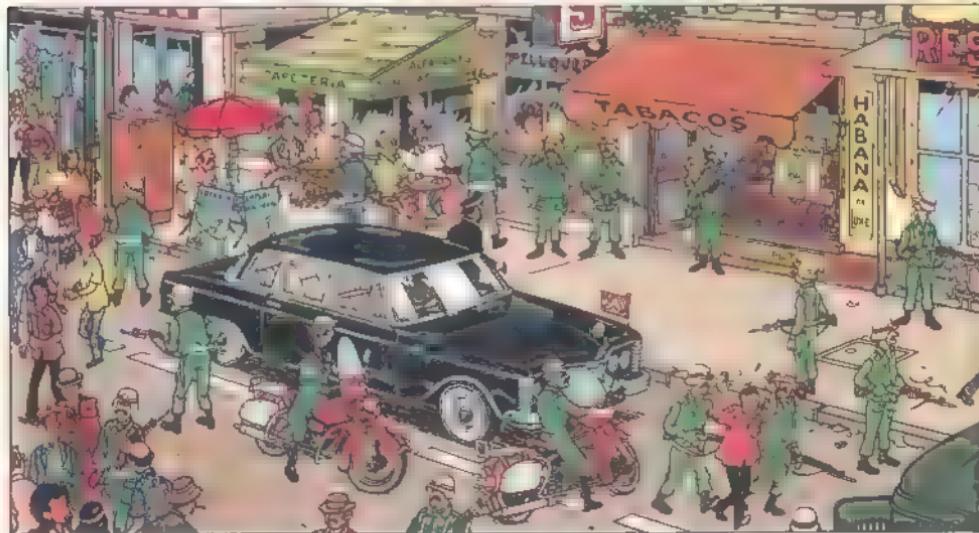
Windows, they do not
open señor
Buenas
noches, señor.

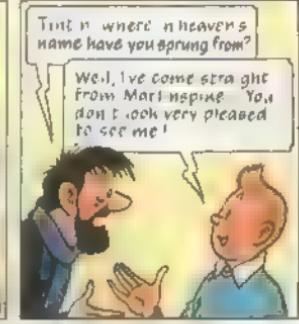
ZING

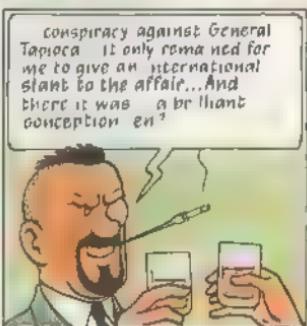
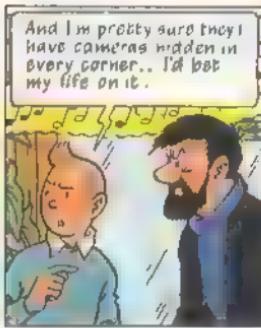
Thanks friend really, you
try too hard!







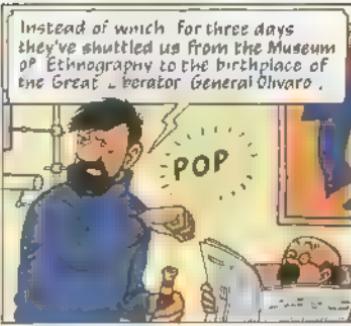




Three days go by .

But WHEN are we going to see that confounded fellow Tapioca? After all, that's the principal reason we came here!

Instead of which for three days they've shuttled us from the Museum of Ethnography to the birthplace of the Great Liberator General Olivaro.



then to the zoo, then to the cathedral of the Santísima Virgen de la Inmaculada Concepción And what marvels have they in store -- for us tomorrow?

A confetti-maker for the carnival? Or perhaps a sombrero factory? Heaven knows what!

POP



Billions of blue blistering barnacles! What's happened to me? Why can't I take a single drop of alcohol any more?

RAT TAT TAT
COME IN HE HE

RAT TAT TAT
YES! COME!



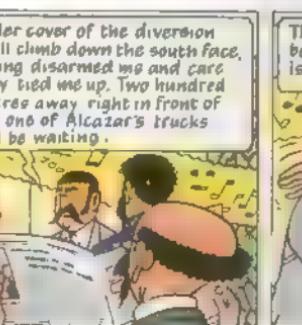
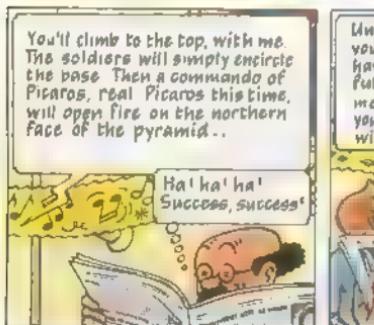
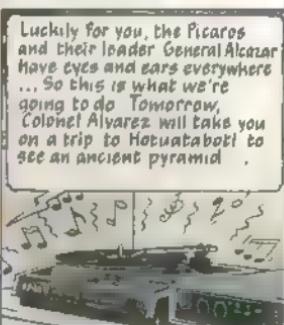
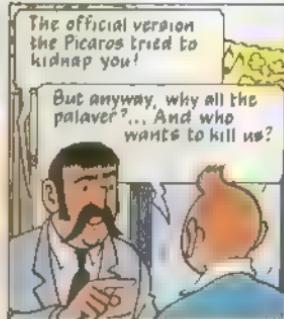
Buenas tardes, señores
Hello surely that isn't Manolo's voice?

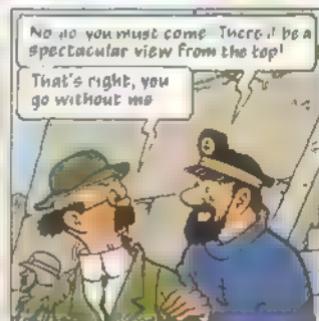
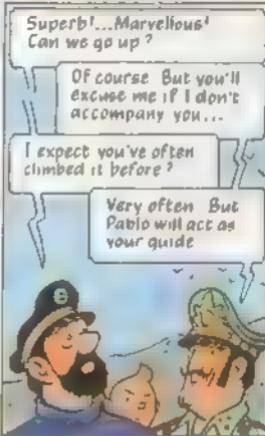
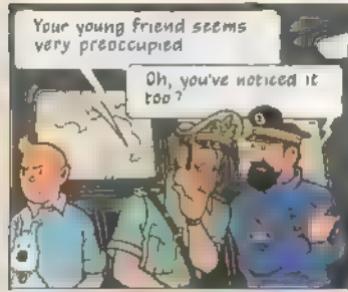
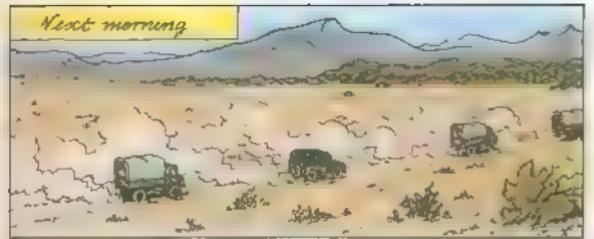
The even no papers señores
PABLO!?!?

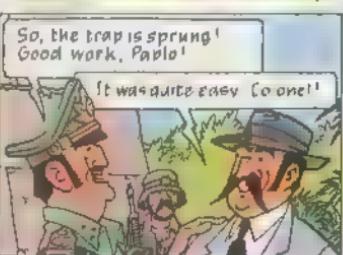
Great shakes! What a surprise! I never .
Sssh

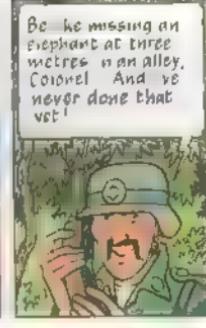


Good evening, señores. My name is Pablo I've been sent to replace Manolo, who suffered a slight accident this morning.









Sure, the one Pablo
brought me... What's
the matter? You seem
surprised about something.



But Pablo lied to us, as
he did to you. And with what object?

How should
know?

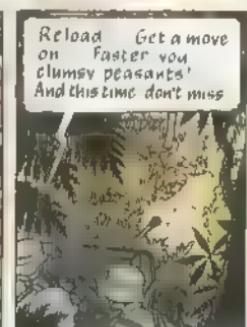
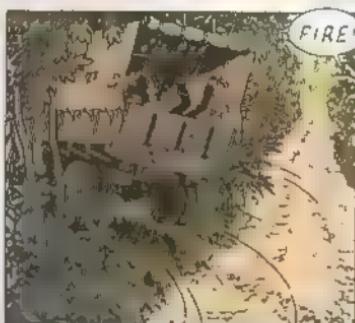
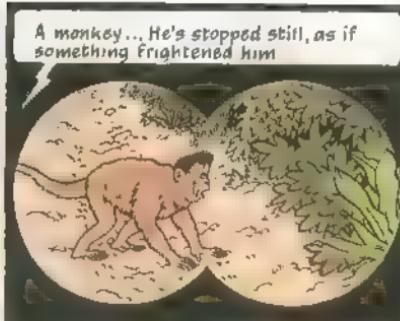


Jaguar calling Puma. We
can see the truck now.

Careful... there's something in the road ahead

You'll find binoculars there.

A monkey... He's stopped still, as if something frightened him



A direct hit? Well done, Captain! ... Are they all dead?

I've sent men to check Colonel!

Colonel Esponia will be pleased with you, Pablo.

Jaguar calling Puma.
Jaguar calling Puma

Yes, I'm receiving you. What's that?
The truck's empty? What?
Because of the monkey? What monkey?
Explain yourself, you imbecile!!

No, they don't dare follow. They know we'll soon be in Arumbaya country... And that scares the living daylights out of them!

My other guerrillas who covered our escape while they pretended to attack will catch us up by another route... As for Pablo, that creep... Just wait till I get my hands on Pablo!

The dirty rat! I'll have him eaten alive by red ants!

I must admit I never suspected him for a moment...

A charming walk, isn't it, Captain?

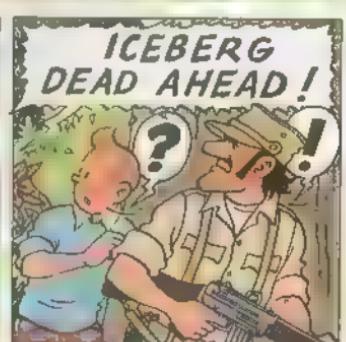
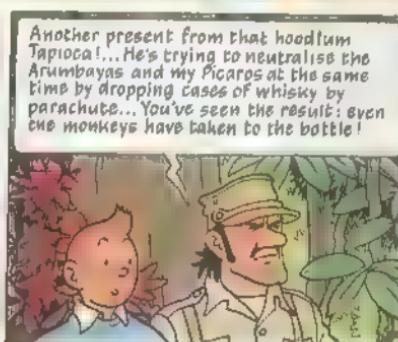
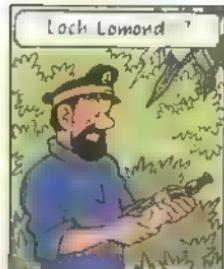
Charming; you've said it!... To think we could be home at good old Martinspike downing a cool glass of beer!

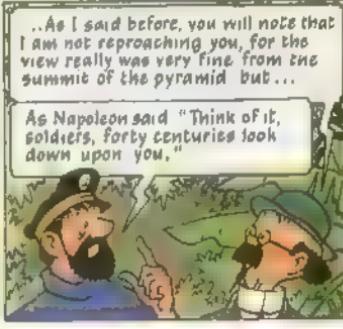
But Captain, I ask you, why did you make me climb to the top of that pyramid and then rush me straight down the other side?... You must admit it's very odd.

Mmm... That...

I'm not really cross with you because the view certainly was spectacular

There on the ground Columbus!
Am I dreaming?





R dgewer! You never get
any better do you you j.d.
oker! Come on out of
there!

Hello General! Hello Tintin! It's
good to see you again!

NICE to be back Doctor
Ridgewell! How are
the Arumbayas?
Learned to play golf
yes?

Don't talk about it! But on
the other hand they've made
great strides... in drunken-
ness I'm afraid... By
courtesy of General Tapioca!

LET ME GO!
TINTIN!!!
HELP!!!

Tintin help! Save me! Stop thief! Fire!
Police! Help I am undone!

hal hal hal hal wetat it fat hal hal ha

That's enough!
G dahla vit'

You see? Tapioca has
a lot to answer for.
Come we must go. The
village is still some
distance away.

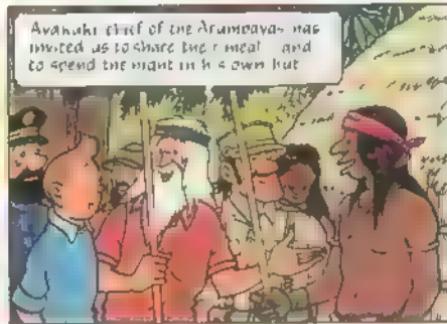
D paomawals. That's what "civilization"
has done for those "savages".

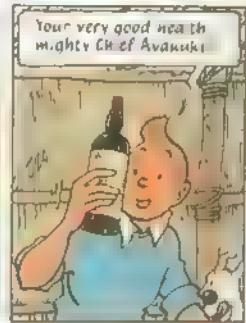
That evening

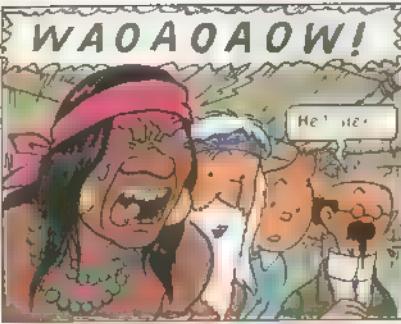
There's the Arum-
baya village.

Excuse me, Captain. I see they
are preparing some sort of
meal over there.

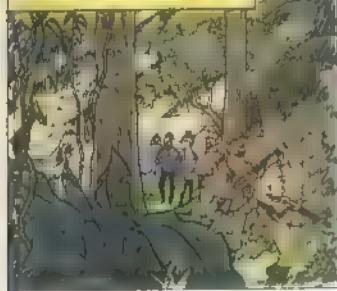
He he







The next morning



Poor Captain, he doesn't seem any better ..



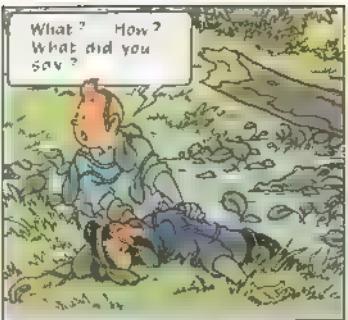
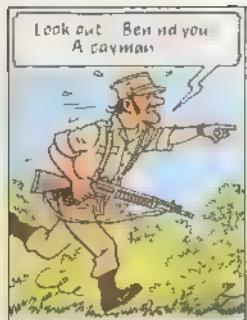
- Meanwhile

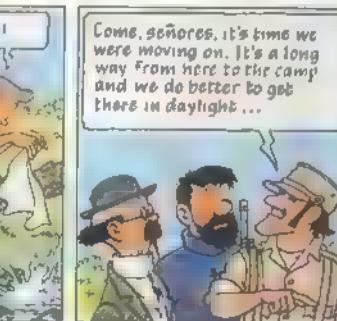
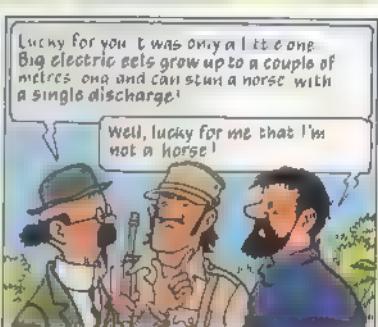


Enough of your "ifs" and "buts". They must be found at all costs and eliminated - we napalm use rockets, use bombs! We've got to settle this business before the carnival, you hear me?!









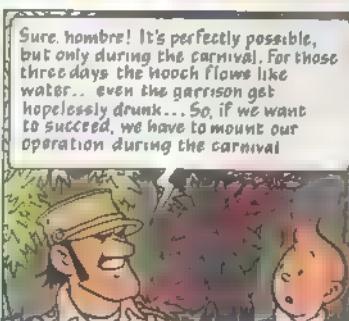
Come, señores, it's time we were moving on. It's a long way from here to the camp and we do better to get there in daylight ...

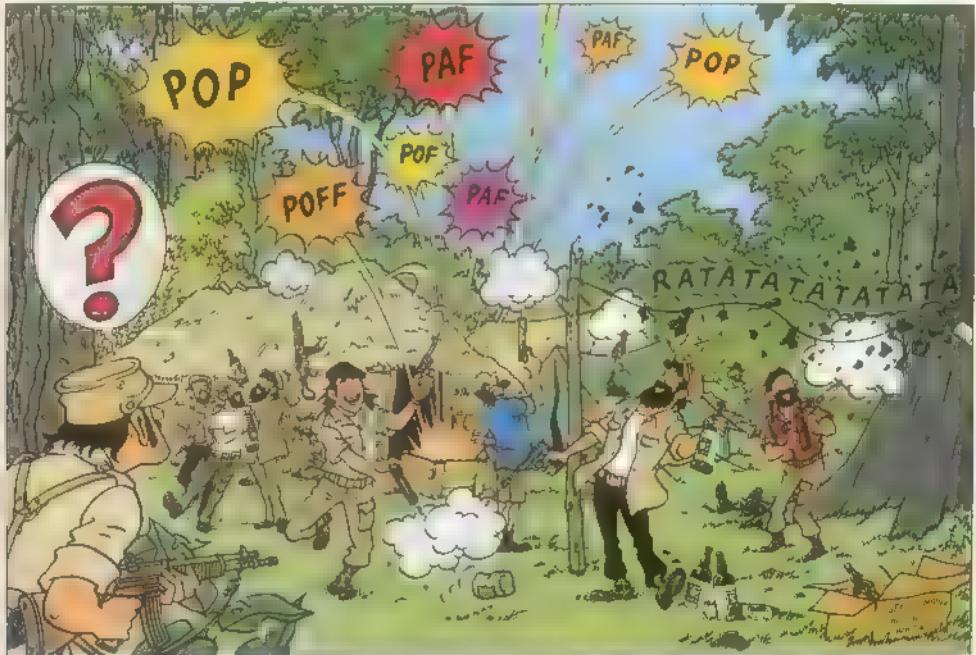
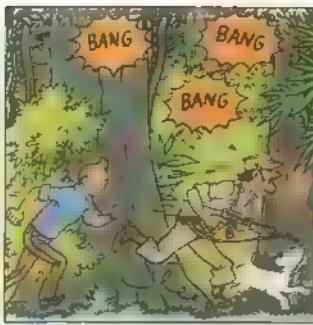


Nearly there just another quarter of an hour, and we'll be with my Picaros

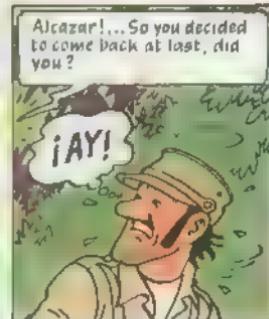
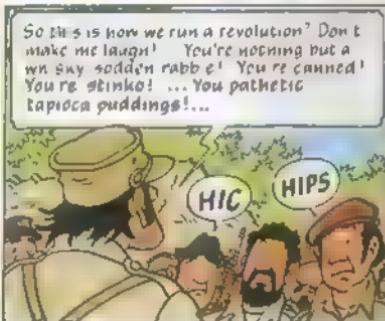
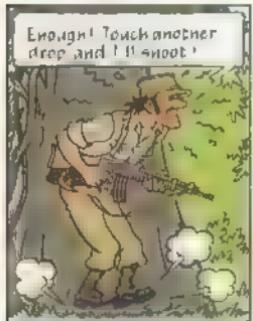
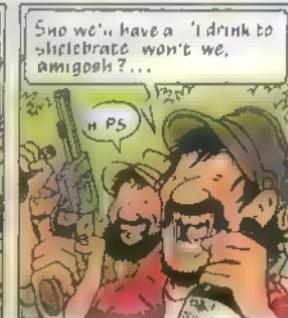


And you plan to regain power with thirty men?.. I must say, General, you certainly have plenty of nerve





IBASTA!



Look who's here! . And just where d'you think you've been Mr Big?

Good-evening, Peggy, my dove!

You promised me to be home the same night! . And you've been gone three whole days!

I can explain, palomita mia

Yeah, yeah, I know: any excuse is better than none! . And what about me left totar in a lousy mud hut? That's real danay!

The general promised me a palace in Tapicapolis! And all the general provides is a beat-up palliasse crawling with bugs and roaches!

But

These guys your friends? .. Oh, I warn them they think they're gonna make the rules around here, they're mighty mistaken!

Thank you, gracious lady, for those kind words! . Please believe that we are extremely touched by your generous welcome, and allow me to offer you our most humble respects...

SMACK

That a weak woman should share the hardships and, let us admit it, the dangers of guerrilla life, commands not only our utmost respect but our profound admiration!

.. And I speak in all sincerity, dear lady

She seems a little er break on first acquaintance, but she has a heart of gold ...

Of course, General One Sees it immediately ...

What a delightful lady! .. So graceful! Such exquisite femininity! .. As for that poor man

This revolution will never succeed with a collection of drunkards like that. Never, unless someone gives him a hand.. And it is I who will do it! , Cuthbert Calculus!

You?

You?

No, gentlemen, I am not a fool! I know exactly what I am saying!

You've missed a

My sister ??? What about my sister? What's my sister done to you? Will you be dead enough to leave my sister out of this? And now, listen to me

You see this tube of tablets? Well, it contains a product that I have recently perfected. It has a base of medicinal herbs...

The preparation has no taste, no smell, and is absolutely non-toxic. Having said that, a single one of those tablets administered in either food or drink impart a disgusting taste to any alcohol taken thereafter

...And the very first person upon whom I tested it was you, Captain!

You dared to do that?...Borgia!...Cannibal...Misera...blundering barbecued blister..



And furthermore you can thank me for being concerned for your health!

Please, Captain!

It's a disgrace! A scandal! A monstrous attack upon the personal freedom of the individual

Precisely! And again yesterday, with the Indians, you could see for yourselves the efficacy of my invention...

But I never knew you had

No, young man, I am not mad!...And I would ask you to show a little more respect to words a man of mature years!

No no I insist er

And for heaven's sake stop talking about my sister!

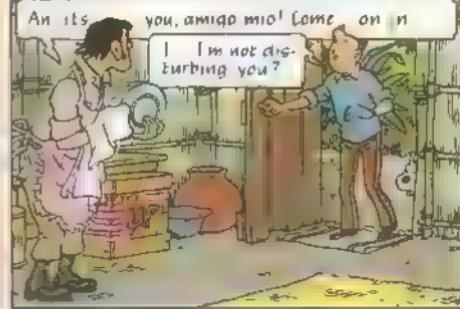
My sister... Just a moment... My sister???

...And another thing!... I don't have a sister... I never had a sister... And don't you forget it!

So there



Stay with him Captain.. And for the time being stop him from doing anything hasty. I'm off to talk to the General



Alcazar the dishes!

'I'll carry on presently palomita mia I promise'

Sit down, hombre What brings you here?



Another cigar? ..That makes three since you came back!

Does... does it my dove?

I've been thinking over what you said to me earlier, a revolution is impossible while your Picaros have only one idea in their heads: whisky!

Alas, that's quite true

But what would you say if someone succeeded in curing them of their bad habits?

Ah that's impressive Mr amigo



And yet if you managed to do that, Mr. bombs I'd give you half the gold reserves in the Banco de la Nacion!

Ahem!

er, let's say a third

Ahem!

Well... er... ten per cent... What about that?

I don't want anything like that - not a centavo, General.

Then what do you want, amigo? Tell me...

A promise that you'll carry out your revolution without bloodshed... that there won't be any reprisals, or executions, or anything of that sort..

WHAT?

You're crazy! Or else you're a traitor and ought to be shot here and now!

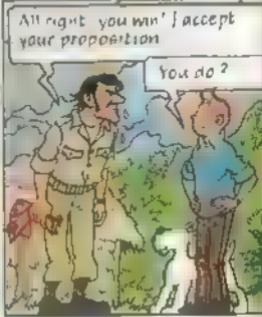
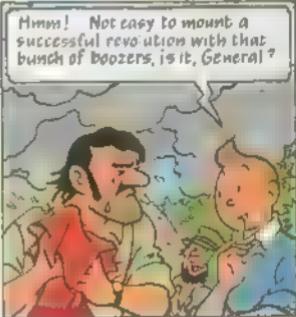
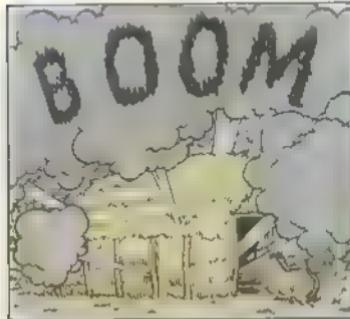


A revolution without executions?
Without reprisals? ¡Caramba!
It's unthinkable... You must be
crazy! And anyway what about
tradition? Yes what about
tradition? Answer me that!

No, what you ask is impossible,
amigo... Tapioca and his
ministers are bloody tyrants
and villains...

They must be shot!... Every
man jack of them!... Shot,
d'you hear me?

Very well General



But at least you let me shoot
Tapioca and his m'sters?
And his staff off cere? You
wouldn't refuse me that?

You won't shoot
anyone, General!

No one but Tap oca and
his m'sters then

I said no one. You can
take it or leave it!

But it's mean. You're taking
advantage of the situation!
Do you realize I'll be nothing but
a figure of fun if I do as you say?

At least let me shoot Tapioca
Just Tap oca I implore
you

No

I cure your Picardos of their drunk-
ness and you'll promise me
not to use any violence while
I'm helping you to regain power.
Agreed! All right say
after me. I promise!

Good... have your word. For
my part I promise that soon
your Picardos won't touch a
drop more alcohol

Good!... But just you watch
your steps if you've given me
false hope you'll be up against
a wall pronto! Understand?

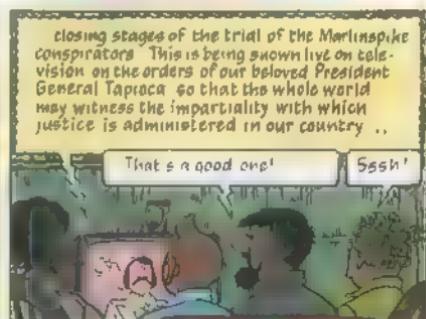
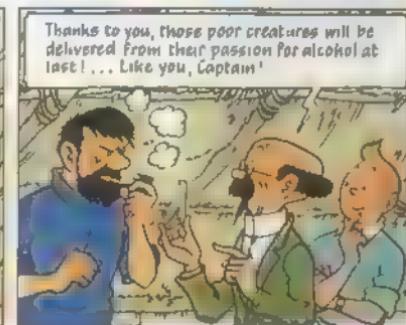
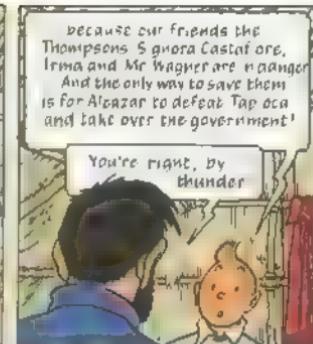
Has he lost something?

Yes he must have lost
something

You seem to have lost
something

No no I've lost
something

The bottle of tablets I was
telling you about just now
I can't find it anywhere
Isn't that curious?



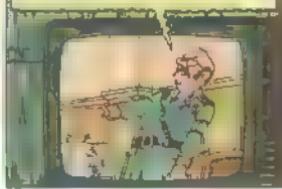
Recently, our beloved President generously invited Captain Haddock, Professor Calculus and the reporter Tintin to our country to put their case. He guaranteed their freedom. And how did they repay him? With cold cynicism! They took the first opportunity to flee into the jungle and join their accomplice Alcazar and his villainous Picaros!



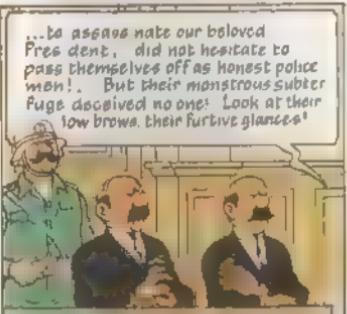
This action alone is enough to prove that the grave accusations against the three defendants are entirely justified. But over now to the Palace of Justice where the Public Prosecutor is putting the case for the Republic...



You have before you, gentle men, two sinister characters who, more easily to accomplish their evil purpose do I need to remind you of it?



...to assassinate our beloved President, did not hesitate to pass themselves off as honest police men! But their monstrous subterfuge deceived no one! Look at their low brows, their furtive glances!



...In short, look at their brutish faces! Policemen? Them? Cheats! Imposters! Assassins!



Men who, to appear as loyal supporters of General Tapiovaara and the noble ideology of Kärvä-Tasch, carried their duplicity so far as to grow moustaches!



That's a lie! ...We've been wearing moustaches since we were born!

To be precise, we're worn bearing them!



Silence! ...You will speak when you are spoken to!

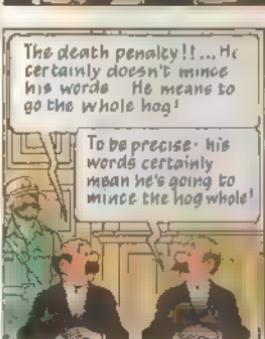


...Gentlemen, for these two wretches, who can have no claim to extenuating circumstances, I demand the DEATH PENALTY!



The death penalty!!! ...He certainly doesn't mince his words. He means to go the whole hog!

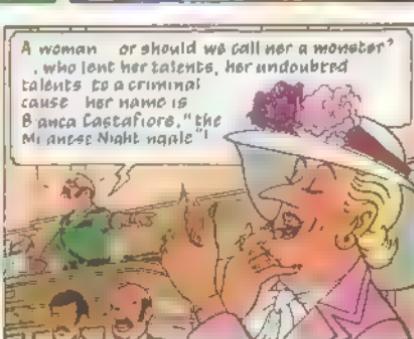
To be precise: his words certainly mean he's going to mince the hog whole!



But the real brains behind the plot and we have here documents which prove it irrefutably are those of a woman!!!



A woman or should we call her a monster? ...who lent her talents, her undoubtedly talents to a criminal cause her name is Bianca Castafiore, "the Milanese Nightingale"!



For this I ren with a serpent's heart for
this gorgon with a face of gold. I beg I implore
I demand IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE

Revenge is sweet, eh Colonel?
Ahh ha ha!

Ahh ha ha, as
you say

Imprisonment for life? Did
I hear you right? Why you're
arresting me like a soldier!

SILENCE!!

Or perhaps, my
poor friend, you're
mad as a hatter!

SILENCE!!!

Your documents, refutable proof?
...Pooh! Fabrications, da capo
ai fime! A fig for your documents!

SILENCE!!!

Yes, they are
a joke!

Your little joke! I laugh
Ah' ha' ha! Aahh!

AAAHH!! AAAHH!!

AAAHH! MY BEAUTY PAST COMPARE]

SILENCE

Clear the
court!

Guarda

Ti al sicuro

TWEET TWEET
CHEEP CHEEP

Interlude

You see what's going to happen?
The Thompsons sentenced to death!
Cast them to life imprisonment!
...How can we get them out?

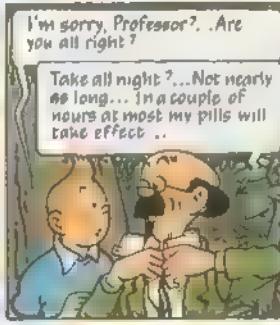
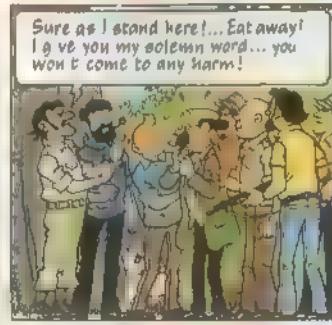
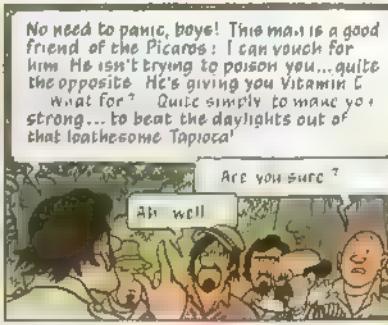
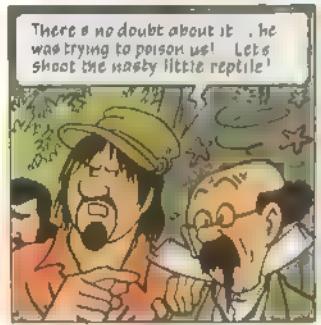
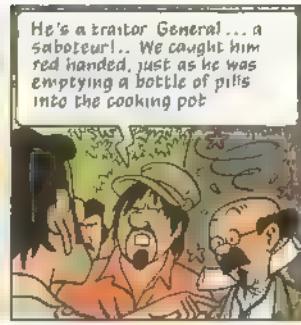
By launching the revolution!
...But there's no chance
of doing that until

your friend Tintin keeps
his promise that is until
my P caros come off the
boozee... It all depends on
that for the moment! ...

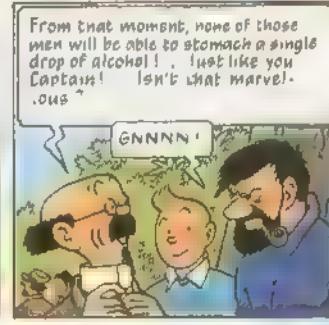
Lynch him

Kill the spy!

Help!



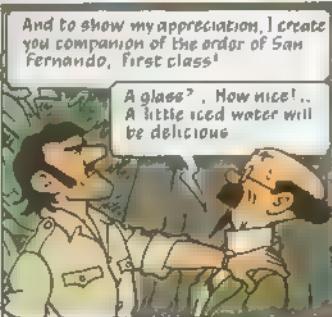
Take all night?... Not nearly so long... In a couple of hours at most my pills will take effect...



GNNNN!



M.B.I.L



A glass?.. How nice!.. A little iced water will be delicious



Look at them, Captain... They're obviously suspicious... And if they don't eat that food they'll go on drinking... So the revolution will fail... and our friends the Thompsons will be shot!



There's the dog. He belongs to the Thompsons. I'm going to give him some of that vitaminized stew. If he eats it, we will too. Otherwise

He's right!

Taaree!



Come come come! ... Yummmum... Looky dere! Looky dere, good for little doggywagsies! ..

He must be daft, talking to that...



You saw that boy? Are we going to eat what even a dog won't touch?

You're right!

We won't eat that much!



Go back at once, Snowy and eat it!



Doggywaggy?
Come come come come

He do what does he want me for?



Hey boys! Look! He's changed his mind... Now we can have some too!

I Bueno! I'm hungry!



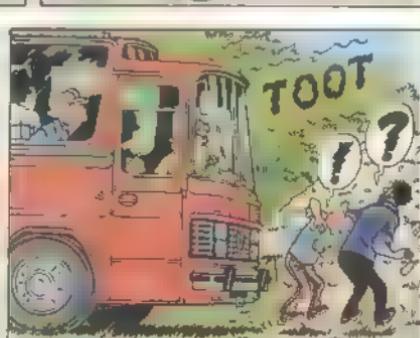
They're eating it!
Now we can save our friends!



That's op! It's full of pimentos



SCHLOOP GLURP GLURP SCHLOOP



Hello ab b b - He bus'

An' Not a pink Ephant
today then?

Is it far to Tapioca-
pe's chum?

Tapiacapolis?...
Great in the
you're hopelessly
off the road

Draft!... Could any of these
soldiers escort us? I've heard
there's a risk of attack from
guerrillas around here. They
call them Picaros

That's exactly where you are:
among the Picaros!

No kidding?

Are these real guerril as?

It's terribly
Tarzan, dear don't
you laugh

I say old man where can we
buy postcards?

Postie - he
carder

They must have a souvenir
shop somewhere about
the place

Blow me - eek who's here!

JO YOU
WADD!

Doctor live & strong, I pre-
sume? How are you me old
dad? Or not day?

No

Don't tell me you laid
it on as a surprise!
You're part of the web
come to the carnival!
It's going to be a wow
th' year: thanks
to us!

THANKS TO YOU -

Bet your life!... Know
the charity concere
party The Jolly follies?
... That's us!... And
guess who's leader of
the band, yours truly!

Ah! er

Sunny Jim designed their costume
so Smashing on?

Very oromo

What's all this tom foolery?

Who's that?

General Alcazar leader of the Picaros

Hi there, me old Field Marshal! ... So you're the top brass for these boozy brigands!



What d'you think you're doing here, you and your busload of caferinas? And come to think of it for all I know you're spies on Tapioca's payroll!



A word with you, General! If I may



CLICK

Tintin, amigo mio, you're a genius! A real genius!... I shall admit you to the Order of San Fernando

Thanks General



We come to the Picaros senior



Please forgive me, amigo mio. I didn't realize who you were. But carnivalesque friends of my friends are friends of mine! So make yourself at home, hombre!



And this evening, am go, you and all your fowles will be my guests! Si si! We'll have a grand fiesta, with whisky by the gallon! Just you wait!



What did you say to him?

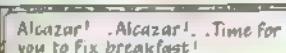




The morning after



Alcazar! Answer me!
I am not amused!



Alcazar? . Where are you? Answer me this minute!



'Morning Culbert' Everyone still
enjoying in this palm court paraiso
dinner

Ants? Don't talk about them! Everywhere A veritable plague!



YIIIIIIIIIIII!
THE MONSTER!
HE'S GONE!



My dove
Give son to start the raw-
bushun against the real
Tao-oca. When its over you
will have the pathie which
I've promised you
Much love from your
Lazar
I've borrowed the polyfolis
bus and have left Juan
Picard to look after you.
Z



'Caramba! These Jolly Follies were sent from heaven!...Thanks to them and to your friend Calculus I'll soon be back in power..

It's a shabby way to treat those poor people, sneaking off with their bus and their costumes. But it's the only way to save our friends..



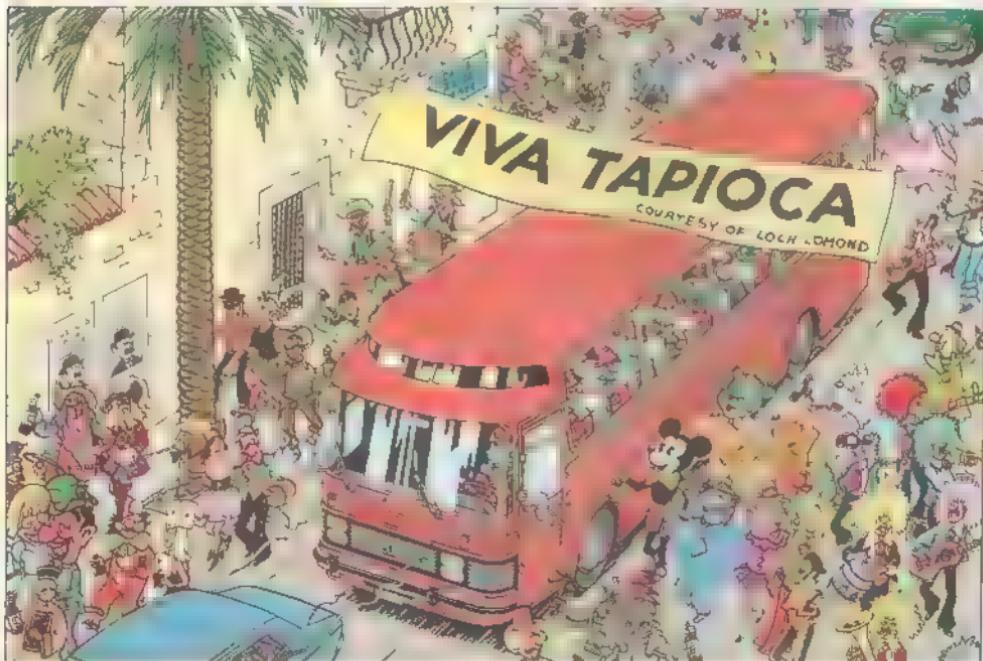
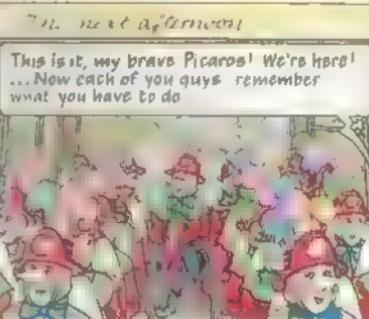
'Never mind, I'll be able to reward them with appropriate generosity as soon as I've checked out that vile Tapioca. I'll admit them all to the Order of San Fernando.'



Tomorrow afternoon we'll arrive in Tapiocapolis and that'll soon be renamed Alcazaropolis. It's the opening day of the carnival. Before we reach the city we'll rehearse our plans to the very last detail.

We'll be dressed in the Jolly Follies costumes with our guns at the ready.

With orders not to fire them



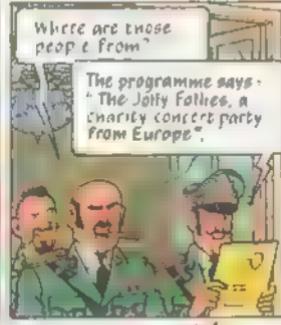
Meanwhile

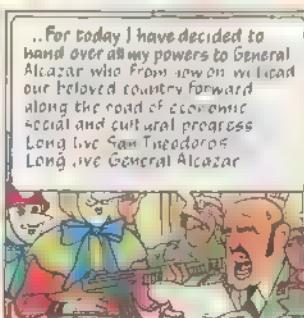
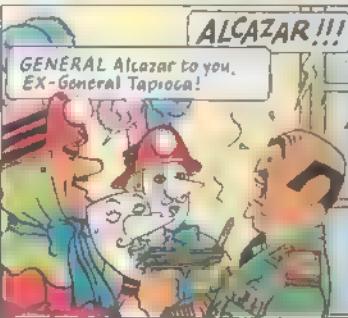
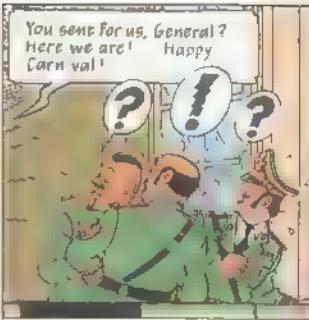
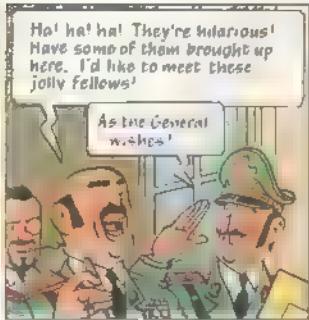
Are you sure it isn't dangerous, General, letting all these people assemble in front of the windows? You'll be a sitting target for the first Picaro.

No danger Colonel.

Even if by some extraordinary chance armed Picaros managed to infiltrate the crowd, they'd be far too drunk to shoot straight! As you know, my parachute drops of whisky have been a total success.

My spics have been quite definite. Alcazar's men are never sober. And they'd be quite incapable of engaging many serious actions, poor fools...





'There it is... in the bag!'. Pedro, you and your section hop along to the Rad'o Building and see this statement is broadcast immediately. Understand?

Si

My heartiest congratulations, General! Death to Tapioca... Would you like him shot at once?

Long live General Alcazar!

Shoot Tapioca!

Long live General Alcazar!

Executions are out! Half a few I've spared

But General, it's contrary to every custom. The people will be terrified by this treatment

The colonel is right, General. For pity's sake don't pardon me! Do you want me complete & dishonoured?

Permit me to insist, General!

My decision is irrevocable. Your life will be spared! An aircraft will be placed at your disposal, to convey you wherever you may wish to go.

Are you mad?

No I'm not... But he said... This macho made me give my word that the coup would be bloodless!... I'm desperately sorry...

Come on, let's greet old Sponz...

Ah an idealist, is he?... Young chaps nowadays have absolutely no respect for anything. Not even the oldest traditions!

We live in sad times

We meet again, Colonel Sponz!

Don't worry, Sponz, even you have nothing to fear. They're putting for you in Borduria, so your ticket to Szohod is booked for the morning.

We caught them over trying to escape.

It's Tintin!... I'm finished!

Paro

Mercy Señor Tintin, mercy! Please don't shoot me!

That's less than you deserve, you subtropical sea-louse!

Don't be afraid Pablo, no one is going to hurt you. You once saved my life, and I haven't forgotten that... You are free to go... Adios, Pablo!

You made a mistake there, Tintin, and you'll live to regret it. You're making a rod for your own back... To be precise...

The Thompsons, General! The Thompsons... They could be shot while we stand here talking!

Ah, yes... you think so?

Yes, General. The execution is due to take place in twenty-two minutes precisely!

Mil bombs! Quick, call the prison and cancel the execution!

At once General!

You did it on purpose! Dial the right number this time, or I'll have you shot!

RRRRRING
RRRRRING

...precisely... Pip Pip Pip... At the third stroke it will be five forty and ten seconds.

If it doesn't work this time, I'll personally shoot the Minister of Telecommunications!!

The number you have dialed does not exist. Please consult your directory.

Only one thing to do: dash to the prison and save them themselves!

Takes B Section with you! The colonel will guide you! I'll have his head if you're too late!

Rápido! ¡Rápido... por Dios!

Meanwhile ...

I'm terribly sorry, gentlemen, but we must go, please ... It's time ...

And one must be on time.

To be precise: time, gentlemen, please!

Don't worry: it's a nasty moment, but you'll soon forget it ...

This is San Theodore's National Radio. We are interrupting our programmes for a special announcement by His Excellency General Tapioca...



A car! ... We must commandeer a car!



Useless! No vehicle could get through this crowd ...

What can we do?



You! ... Keep on playing!

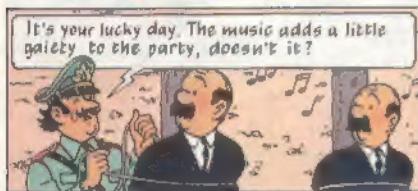
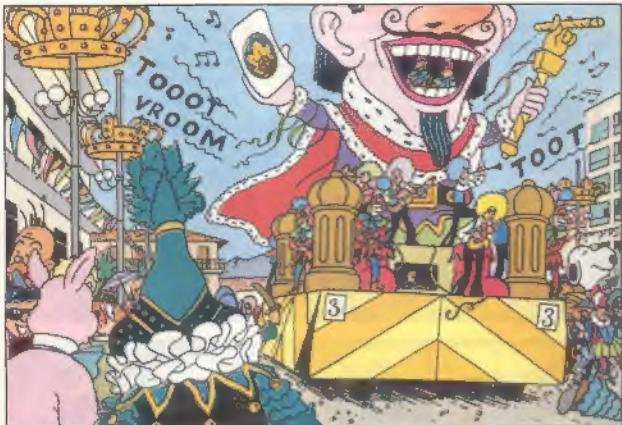
Keep playing! Don't stop!



Driver! ... To the State Prison! And put your foot down!

Put my foot down? ... With this crate? ... You must be joking!





A few minutes later...

Saved by the bell, eh? ...

Oh? I didn't hear it, with the music...

And the friends of these gentlemen... Where are they?

I'll take you there at once, Colonel!

They've been very well treated, Colonel. They'll tell you so themselves...

I hope so, for your sake!

This is Signora Castafiore's cell. They've just taken in her lunch...

...and I'm telling you for the last time!

...I want my pasta cooked properly, d'you hear? ... "al dente", as we say at home in Italy!

Ah, Madonna!... Captain Hemlock!

Come, caro mio!... Come to my arms!

I knew you'd come to rescue me from this dreadful place!

Ahem!... Here is Señor Igor Wagner, señora...

... and your maid ...

Ah, what joy to be all together again! I simply must sing!

Ah, my dear Irma, how I have missed you!

Not! Not!

Not!

Not that!

Next morning ...

The army, the navy and the air force have come over to me! 1000 bombs! It's an overwhelming triumph!

And it's partly due, of course, to you... Si, si, si!... Alcazar is not ungenerous: you will be decorated with the order of San Fernando!... As for your five percent...

Please forget that, General!



General, the bus you sent to the camp to fetch Señora Alcazar and the Jolly Follies has returned.

Good! Show them in here...



So there you are, Alcazar! What's the game, eh? You've been absent without leave again!

I can explain, palomita mia ...



Señor Wagg, allow me to express the deep gratitude of the San Theodorion people for the help you have given to our cause. I therefore appoint you and your Jolly Follies to the order of San Fernando, and invite you to next year's carnival.



And Señor Professor... In recognition of the magnificent role you played, I appoint you Knight Grand Cross of the Order of San Fernando, with Oak Leaves.

No thank you, my friend. Never between meals.



Good old Alcazar! Give him a big hurrah!



As for you, my dove... I promised you a palace. Bueno, I keep my word. This is all yours, from now on...



Fine and dandy!... Anyone can see it isn't you who's expected to keep this dump clean... So for a start, stop dropping cigar ash all over the place!... You get me?



Two days later ...

Blistering barnacles, I shan't be sorry to be back home in Marlinspike...

Me too, Captain...



THE
END